

Amendments to the Specification

Please make the following amendments to the Abstract.

~~The present invention is a game playing method and apparatus for automating games such as blackjack, poker, craps, roulette, baccarat and pai gow, wherein players may play continuously and asynchronously, and information related to advertised items can be exchanged between players and advertisers. In one embodiment, each instance of a game is likely unique from all other current game instances. The games do not require a manual dealer and in one embodiment, played in a gaming establishment using low cost gaming stations. The present invention may also be used to play such games on the Internet or an interactive cable television network wherein a game controller communicates with players at network nodes in their homes and at their leisure since there is no game tempo requirement. During a game, advertising is selectively provided by comparing player personal information with a desired demographic profile. Player responses to advertising are used for evaluating advertising effectiveness. The invention is useful for test marketing of products, advertisements, and reduces advertising costs.~~

Methods and apparatus for playing games via a network are disclosed. An example method of playing a game via a network communicates via the network with a plurality of players at respective player nodes to enable play of the game between the plurality of players. The example method causes, via the network, each of the player nodes to display game token representations during the play of the game between the plurality of players, and communicates, via the network, game play information associated with the performance of the game between the plurality players to each of the plurality of player nodes.

Please change the title of this application to "NETWORK-BASED GAMES."

Please insert the following text at line page 1, line 3:

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RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/502,285, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/105,401 (now issued Patent No. 6,183,366), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/759,895 (now issued Patent No. 5,823,879), which claims the benefit of the filing dates of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/010,703, filed on January 26, 1996, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/010,361, filed on January 19, 1996, all of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entireties.--